



RTCA in Louisiana

The Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. The National Park Service (NPS) staff provide technical assistance to community groups, city, county, tribal governments, and non-profit organizations working to enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation opportunities. We help local leaders plan and design trails and parks; conserve and improve access to natural areas; protect special places; and create recreation opportunities.

The RTCA program in Louisiana offers a wide range of services that can be tailored to meet the needs of an individual project. The NPS staff members are trained facilitators who encourage project leaders to build collaborative partnerships among governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. The program helps communities and groups define their vision, goals, and objectives; analyze issues and opportunities; and develop strategic action plans and time lines for projects. We do not provide financial assistance, but can help project partners identify and secure sources of funding and technical support.

Any community with committed project partners can apply for assistance. Believing the best plans are completed locally, the National Park Service will work with partners to encourage broad-based community participation in planning, designing, and implementing the projects we support.

In 2016, the National Park Service in Louisiana will work on a variety of projects including:

- **Lower Ninth Ward Waterfront Trail** – The project goal is to develop a trail plan that provides recreational activities that include walking, jogging, and biking along four miles of waterfront in the Lower Ninth Ward. (Location: New Orleans, Louisiana)
- **Three Rivers Blueway** – The project goal is to connect the communities of St. Tammany Parish and City of Covington with a water trail where the Tchefuncte, Bogue Falaya, and Abita Rivers converge. The development of a masterplan will be the guide for establishing the water trail. This project will provide new river recreation opportunities for canoeing and kayaking and for park and greenway conservation. (Location: Covington, Louisiana)

For more information about the RTCA program refer to: www.nps.gov/rtca, or for information about ongoing or potential RTCA projects in Louisiana contact:

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